

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 1591, U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5013–S5121

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1204–1224, S.J. Res. 12, and S. Res. 171–172.

Pages S5085–86

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2007". (S. Rept. No. 110–56)

S. Res. 116, designating May 2007 as "National Autoimmune Diseases Awareness Month" and supporting efforts to increase awareness of autoimmune diseases and increase funding for autoimmune disease research.

S. Res. 125, designating May 18, 2007, as "Endangered Species Day", and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

S. Res. 146, designating June 20, 2007, as "American Eagle Day", and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the American bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

S. Res. 162, commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

Pages S5084–85

Measures Passed:

America COMPETES Act: By 88 yeas and 8 nays (Vote No. 146), Senate passed S. 761, to invest in innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of the United States in the global economy, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S5020–72

Adopted:

Bingaman (for McCaskill/DeMint) Modified Amendment No. 931, to provide for a review by the Comptroller General of the activities, grants, and programs carried out under the Act. **Pages S5030–31**

Bingaman (for Obama) Modified Amendment No. 923, to expand the pipeline of individuals entering the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields to support United States innovation and competitiveness. **Pages S5030–31**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding adoption of the Obama Amendment No. 923 as modified, that the DeMint Amendment No. 929 agreed to on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, still be in order. **Page S5045**

Bingaman (for Snowe/Kohl) Amendment No. 941, to clarify the types of expenses available to Regional Centers under the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership program in meeting their non-Federal funding commitment. **Pages S5030–31**

Bingaman (for Levin/Voinovich) Amendment No. 960, to include the Great Lakes in research, development, and science education programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Pages S5030–31**

Bingaman (for Obama) Modified Amendment No. 905, to require the Director of Mathematics, Science, and Engineering Education to establish a program to recruit and provide mentors for women and under-represented minorities who are interested in careers in mathematics, science, and engineering. **Pages S5033–34**

Inhofe Modified Amendment No. 955, to protect American competitiveness. **Pages S5033, S5046**

Kohl Amendment No. 942, to increase the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program. **Pages S5045–46, S5057**

Bingaman (for Grassley) Modified Amendment No. 915, to modify provisions relating to the advanced placement and international baccalaureate program. **Pages S5057–58**

Bingaman (for Grassley) Modified Amendment No. 916, to modify provisions relating to the summer institutes program. **Pages S5057–58**

Bingaman (for Obama) Modified Amendment No. 924, to establish summer term education programs. **Pages S5057–59**

Bingaman (for Menendez) Modified Amendment No. 926, to establish a laboratory science pilot program at the National Science Foundation. **Pages S5057–59**

Bingaman (for Coleman/Pryor) Modified Amendment No. 944, to provide for mathematics and science partnership bonus grants. **Pages S5057–59**

Bingaman (for Baucus) Amendment No. 950, to provide that 21st century learning skills are included in the alignment of education programs. **Pages S5057–60**

Bingaman (for Baucus) Amendment No. 951, to allow distance learning projects as an optional activity for the foreign language partnership program. **Pages S5057–60**

Bingaman (for Baucus) Modified Amendment No. 952, to require the Secretary of Commerce to collect data and conduct a study relating to export and import of services. **Pages S5057–60**

Bingaman (for Hatch) Modified Amendment No. 957, to improve the provisions relating to eligible recipients in a program designed to prepare teachers for a competitive tomorrow. **Pages S5057–60**

Bingaman (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 958, to provide for a feasibility study with regard to a free online college degree program. **Pages S5057–60**

Bingaman (for Murray) Modified Amendment No. 965, to improve mathematics instruction. **Pages S5057–62**

Bingaman (for Feingold) Modified Amendment No. 970, to amend the data privacy provisions regarding statewide P–16 education data systems. **Pages S5057–63**

Bingaman (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 975, to require the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Director of Mathematics, Science, and Engineering Education, to provide grants to States to assist the States in establishing or expanding programs to enhance the quality of science education in elementary schools with respect to conventional and emerging energy sources and uses. **Pages S5057–63**

Bingaman (for Murray) Amendment No. 977, to encourage members of the Armed Forces to participate in programs for master's degrees in mathematics, science, or critical foreign languages education. **Pages S5057–63**

Bingaman (for Alexander/Bingaman) Amendment No. 980, to express the sense of Senate regarding policies related to deemed export control. **Pages S5057–63**

Bingaman (for Crapo/Schumer) Amendment No. 956, to express the sense of the Senate regarding concerns that United States capital markets are losing their competitive edge in intensifying global competition, and to recommend that Congress and the Administration take the necessary steps to reclaim the preeminent position of the United States in the global financial services marketplace. **Page S5064**

Bingaman (for Snowe) Amendment No. 973, to include the Administrator of the Small Business Administration on the President's Council on Innovation and Competitiveness. **Page S5068**

By 82 yeas and 14 nays (Vote No. 145), Coburn Amendment No. 922, to promote transparency at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Pages S5047–52, S5066**

Rejected:

By 24 yeas and 74 nays (Vote No. 141), Bingaman (for Sununu) Amendment No. 938, to strike the provisions regarding strengthening the education and human resources directorate of the National Science Foundation. **Pages S5020–23**

By 22 yeas to 71 nays (Vote No. 142), DeMint Amendment No. 930, to prohibit congressional earmarks of funds appropriated pursuant to authorizations in the bill. **Pages S5029–30, S5056–57**

By 27 yeas and 67 nays (Vote No. 143), Coburn Amendment No. 918, to provide a sunset date. **Pages S5046–47, S5057**

By 39 yeas and 57 nays (Vote No. 144), Coburn Amendment No. 921, to discontinue the Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. **Pages S5052–56, S5063–64**

Withdrawn:

Bingaman (for Sanders) Amendment No. 936, to increase the competitiveness of American workers through the expansion of employee ownership. **Page S5023**

Grassley Amendment No. 914, to increase the fee to be paid by employers of H–1B nonimmigrants and to set aside 25 percent of such fees to improve programs and projects for gifted and talented students. **Pages S5034–35**

Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Settlement of Jamestown: Senate agreed to S. Res. 172, commemorating the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown. **Pages S5120–21**

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Conference Report—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate begin consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1591, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30,

2007, at 10 a.m., on Thursday, April 26, 2007, regardless of whether the Senate has received the papers from the House of Representatives, that the time until 12:45 p.m., be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, and that Senate vote, provided that the message has been received in the Senate, on adoption of the conference report at 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2007. **Page S5120**

Messages From the House: **Page S5080**

Measures Referred: **Page S5080**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5083–84**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5080–83**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5085**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5086–88**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5088–S5112

Additional Statements: **Pages S5079–80**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5112–19**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S5119–20

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—146) **Pages S5023, S5057, S5063–64, S5066, S5068–69**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:08 p.m., until 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5121.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded hearings to examine challenges and opportunities facing American agricultural producers, focusing on farm programs and the commodity title of the farm bill, after receiving testimony from Tom Buis, National Farmers Union, David Beckmann, Bread for the World, and Larry Mitchell, American Corn Growers Association, all of Washington, D.C.; Bob Stallman, American Farm Bureau Federation, Columbus, Texas; Bill Flory, American Farmland Trust, Winchester, Idaho; John Hoffman, American Soybean Association, Waterloo, Iowa; John Pucheu, National Cotton Council, Tranquility, California; Ken McCauley, National Corn Growers Association, White Cloud, Kansas; Everett Tallman, National Association of Wheat Growers, Brandon, Colorado; Paul T. Combs, USA Rice Federation, Kennett, Missouri, on behalf of the U.S.

Rice Producers Association; Evan Hayes, National Barley Growers Association, American Falls, Idaho; Dale Murden, National Sorghum Producers, Monte Alto, Texas; Armond Morris, Georgia Peanut Commission, Ocilla, on behalf of the Southern Peanut Farmers Federation; Lynn Rundle, 21st Century Grain Processing Cooperative, Manhattan, Kansas, on behalf of the North American Millers' Association; John Swanson, National Sunflower Association, Mentor, Minnesota, on behalf of the U.S. Canola Association; and Jim Evans, USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, Genesee, Idaho.

APPROPRIATIONS: MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Missile Defense Agency, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Henry A. Obering, III, USAF, Director, Missile Defense Agency, and Lieutenant General Kevin T. Campbell, USA, Commanding General, United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command/United States Army Forces Strategic Command and Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, both of the Department of Defense.

BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine whether the Army is properly sized, organized, and equipped to respond to the most likely missions over the next two decades while retaining adequate capability to respond to all contingencies along the spectrum of combat in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Preston M. Geren, III, Acting Secretary, General George W. Casey, Jr., Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Colonel Coll S. Haddon, Deputy Director of Operations, Program Manager of the Future Combat Systems, Brigade Combat Team, and Sergeant Major Thomas W. Coleman, Program Executive Officer, all of the United States Army, Department of Defense.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL AWARENESS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded a hearing to examine language and cultural awareness capabilities for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Andre Van Tilborg, Deputy Secretary for Science and Technology, and Gail H. McGinn, Deputy Under Secretary for Plans, both of the Department of Defense; and Major General Robert H. Scales, Jr., (Ret.) USA, Colgen, Inc., Dayton, Maryland.